



Gahanna Lincoln High School
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Dear 2023 Band members and band families,

WELCOME TO LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL!!! I hope you had a good summer and are eager to begin your high school career. I'm excited for us to make great music together! I'm also looking forward to getting to know each of the band members and their families. You're probably overwhelmed with a lot of information right now, so I'm this letter will work like a "frequently asked questions" list. Here goes:

What do I need to do right now to be ready for freshman band?

If you haven't played for a few weeks, resume practicing now. Muscles need to be in shape. If your instrument needs repair, get it to a repair shop NOW. Good shops include Rettig Music, Music & Arts, and Buckeye Brass & Winds.

When do I first need my instrument at school?

Monday, August 19. We have lockable and non-locking bins in the band room. We will discuss options on the first Thursday of school.

Do you have reeds and oil available?

Always. Prices are the same as last year. Always make checks payable to GLIMB. Cash is fine.

Is there anything I need to purchase for freshman band?

- *Technique & Musicianship* book. (\$9.00 for percussionists, \$6.50 for everyone else)
- HS band polo to be used through grade 12. (\$30.00). If you can get one from a graduated sibling or neighbor, that's fine. Make sure it's the right one—they were a new design two years ago.

Both of these items will be purchased through the boosters (checks payable to GLIMB) and I will give them to you. You can bring one check for \$36.50 or \$39.00 (percussionists) starting Friday, August 16. Free/reduced lunch waivers do not apply, but let me know if you have a financial concern.

Wait...didn't I just pay \$25 for band when I registered?

Yes, but that's a pay-to-participate fee assessed by the school district that doesn't cover materials. The shirt and book are separate and are obtained through the boosters.

What uniform parts do I need to provide on my own?

- Black dress pants. No patterns or navy permitted.
- Black dress shoes.
- Black dress socks (calf-length or longer).

I'm sure there are forms to turn in! What are they?

All three forms and money are due by Friday, August 23. I have a "forms box" at the front of the room. Forms and notes go in there, but money should always be given directly to me or Mrs. Shellhammer.

1. Emergency Medical Form ([click here](#). Print, fill out, and turn in to the forms box)
2. Grade-policy/website release form ([click here](#). Print, fill out, and turn in to the forms box)
3. Booster registration form ([click here](#). Fill it out online and hit "submit".)

What's this booster registration form?

I'm glad you asked! We request each instrumental music family to volunteer for a minimum of three events per year. The profits at the concession booths allow us to purchase instruments, make repairs, pay entry fees, etc., without running constant fundraisers. As a member of the middle school bands, you've already benefitted from this, especially if you've gone to an OSU music celebration concert, performed at large group contest or solo & ensemble, or had someone in your band playing a school-provided instrument like tuba, percussion, or bari sax. Volunteering in the booths is actually a lot of fun! On that form, you will find information about how to volunteer through signupgenius.com. Don't sign up for the away football games, though—that's for marching band chaperones only. Each member is required to turn in the registration form—even if his/her parents are unable to volunteer or sign-up online. Every member of the band benefits from the funds raised, so please do your part to help out.

I'm going to lose track of these forms. Where else can I find them?

The band website is a good source for everything you need. You can find the calendar, the grade policy, and the emergency medical form there. Most important documents, like these, are located under the "News & Info" tab.

When are the concerts?

I've attached a calendar. All of them are required except where marked. Conflicts with school events should be given to me in writing ASAP. When there are those rare conflicts with another school event (like if you're on an athletic team and the practice and a concert overlap), I will work it out with the advisor/coach and let you know what to do. All of the staff and coaches are very supportive of the various programs and the many interests of the students. The only excused absences will be for weddings, funerals, illness, or family graduation. Vacations, birthday celebrations, concert tickets, outside activities, work, not having a ride, and non-GLHS club sports are not valid excuses. If you see any of these conflicts arising, let me know as soon as possible so that we can work out solutions.

Are the expectations the same as in middle school?

Yes, and since the musicians are now young adults, the expectations are higher. High school freshmen will take responsibility for communicating announcements, concert dates, and other important information home. I will occasionally send emails and reminds, but do not expect reminders of each concert and due date. Also, no food, gum, drink (water is ok), or cell-phone use in the band room. [Click here](#) to see the grade policy.

What are good ways to get in touch with you?

- (614) 478-5519. Band office phone.
- cebriakr@gjps.org. Email.
- www.gahannabands.org. Band website—not really to communicate with me, but it's the first place to go for information.

Is it OK for me to come to the band room before or after school?

You bet—and you will meet some of the older band members, too! Lots of band members socialize here before and after classes—it's a great place to start and end the day.

It's a really long way from my 2nd period class to band. I'm not going to make it!

No worries. The bell rings at 9:23, but we won't take attendance until 9:27. At that time, however, you need to be in your seat with your instrument ready to play. If you need to use the restroom, use it on the way to band—don't come to band and then ask to go. Let's maximize our music-making time!

We're going to have a great year—I'm looking forward to seeing you next Wednesday!